

I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall 564, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall 565, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcalls 565, 567, and 568, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall 569, I would have voted "yea"; and on rollcalls 571, 572, and 573, I would have voted "yea".

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order immediately to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes; that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment; that the joint resolution be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's guidelines, the Chair is unable to entertain the gentleman's request at this time.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order immediately to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes; that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment; that the joint resolution be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the joint resolution (H. J. Res 78) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes, for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution 78 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 78

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 106-62 is further amended by striking "November 10, 1999" in section 1069(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "November 17, 1999", and by striking

"\$288,903,248" in section 119 and inserting in lieu thereof "\$346,483,754." Public Law 106-46 is amended by striking "November 10, 1999" and inserting in lieu thereof "November 17, 1999".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 78, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the current continuing resolution expires tomorrow night. While we had planned to have all appropriations action completed by tomorrow, that will not be possible because of some ongoing negotiations with the administration. We will need an extension into next week because of the Veterans Day holiday.

H. J. Res. 78 would continue operations for the agencies in the five remaining bills until November 17, and I would urge our Members to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any purpose in dragging this out tonight. This is a simple extension until next Wednesday.

I think Members need to have some understanding of what remaining differences are out there, because I think there is a vast misperception about exactly where the conferees are on these issues. As I see it, on the interior appropriations bill, we have made some progress with respect to language items. There are still a number of important language items that have not been resolved, a number of the riders, and there is also at least one major dollar issue which still is to be resolved, and it is the biggest dollar problem in the bill.

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With respect to State, Justice, Commerce, virtually all the dollar disagreements have been resolved. But there are still major differences with respect to language and riders. And again, that represents the items that remain represent major impediments to final agreement.

With respect to the Labor, Health, Education bill, we were in conference

once today this morning. We went into conference the second time, or were invited to come into conference this afternoon. We went to the Senate in order to participate in that conference. While we were sitting in the conference room waiting for the conference to start, the majority conferees on the Senate side in charge of the conference were busy holding a press conference denouncing the actions of those in the conference who represented the White House; and so, we wound up, instead of having a conference, having a press conference while we awaited the possibility of having a conference.

So we made no further progress on that bill since about noon.

That means I think that the individual Members of this place need to know what is going to happen with their schedules.

I would urge the majority party leadership to recognize what the scheduling reality is and to recognize that we either have to have maximum flexibility in reaching an agreement or else we need to have maximum recognition of reality on a timetable so that Members who are not participating in the conference do not have to hang around here waiting for things to happen that are not likely to happen.

I would hope that we could continue discussions and reach agreement on the items so that we do not have another round of recriminations before we finally get out of here.

It seems to me that if we could have more time spent discussing the differences and less time spent in shenanigans, we would all be a whole lot better off.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume just briefly to close and suggest that we are hoping that, as the negotiators continue their work during tomorrow and Thursday and Friday and Saturday and Sunday, that by Monday we will have workable packages that are agreed upon.

But we are at the final stage of the negotiations. Everyone who has ever negotiated knows that the most difficult decisions to agree on are put off to the end. Well, now we are at the end and we are dealing with the most difficult decisions.

As the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) has pointed out, we have had very spirited negotiations most of the day today. We were here late last night. We were here over the weekend and we are moving as rapidly as we can. But we have some very strong differences of opinions between the Congress and even between the House and the Senate, as well as the administration.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.